



7 May, 2015

IPEN Intervention on Best Available Techniques / Best Environmental Practices (BAT / BEP)

Given by Jindrich Petrlik, Czech Republic

Thank you Madam President,

I speak on behalf of IPEN. Our global network consists of more than 700 public interest groups in 100 countries, many of whom are now using the Stockholm Convention's BAT/BEP Guidelines and Dioxin Toolkit.

We have found both documents very useful, and they assist citizens groups to understand the complicated technical issues which they face when they engage in the decision-making processes about proposals for facilities which are potential source of unintentionally produced POPs (UPOPs).

IPEN has represented a wide range of civil society organizations when it has actively engaged in the expert groups preparing these important documents. We believe the way the expert group was established and the discussions to minimize UPOPs releases were very effective. We therefore believe it should continue its work. We also believe that inclusion of newly adopted UPOPs into the Toolkit as well as updating of BAT/BEP Guidelines is crucial in minimization of their releases.

In order to address releases of these POPs we also suggest that BAT/BEP expert group should evaluate new information on available alternative techniques and practices, and on the use of substitute or modified materials, products and processes. We think that this group should also collect and evaluate information relevant to the remediation of contaminated sites and assess the need for the development of guidance as suggested by some of the Parties to Convention. IPEN will be happy to participate in this process and to co-operate with the joint BAT/BEP and Toolkit Expert Group in the same positive manner as it worked in the past.

Thank you Madam President.